

HOUSE BILL NO. 527

INTRODUCED BY S. SALES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE LOTTERY OF A FREE BIG GAME ANIMAL HUNTING LICENSE TO A RESIDENT HUNTER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR TO ENCOURAGE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION; AMENDING SECTION 87-1-271, MCA; AND PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 87-1-271, MCA, is amended to read:

"87-1-271. Annual lottery of hunting licenses -- proceeds dedicated to hunting access enhancement -- hunter safety instructor lottery. (1) ~~The~~ In addition to a license issued by lottery pursuant to subsection (5), the commission may issue through a lottery one license each year for each of the following:

- (a) deer;
- (b) elk;
- (c) shiras moose;
- (d) mountain sheep;
- (e) mountain goat;
- (f) wild buffalo or bison;
- (g) antelope; and
- (h) mountain lion.

(2) The restriction in 87-2-702(4) that a person who receives a moose, mountain goat, or mountain sheep special license is not eligible to receive another license for that species for the next 7 years does not apply to a person who receives a license through a lottery conducted pursuant to this section.

(3) The commission shall establish rules regarding:

- (a) the conduct of ~~the lottery~~ lotteries authorized in this section;
- (b) the use of licenses issued through the lottery authorized in subsection (1); and
- (c) the price of lottery tickets for the lottery authorized in subsection (1).

(4) All proceeds from a lottery conducted pursuant to ~~this section~~ subsection (1) must be used by the department for hunting access enhancement programs and law enforcement.

(5) Each year, the commission shall issue a license by lottery to one person who is a resident, as defined in 87-2-102, and who is designated by the department as a hunter safety and education instructor pursuant to 87-2-105(4) to hunt one animal listed in subsection (1) of that person's choosing in any legally described hunting district open for the hunting of that animal. A license issued under this subsection must be issued at no cost and may be used only during the legal hunting season for the species for which it is issued."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective March 1, 2010.

- END -